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HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Georgia, India, Morocco, Pakistan, Panama, Turkey and Turkmenistan: draft resolution

Human rights and terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations[2] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[3]

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[4]

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[3] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[4] See resolution 50/6.

Recalling also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[5]

Recalling further its resolutions 48/122 of 20 December 1993, 49/185 of 23 December 1994 and 50/186 of 22 December 1995,

Recalling further previous resolutions on human rights and terrorism of the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

Taking into account the fact that acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations aimed at the destruction of human rights have continued despite national and international efforts,

Bearing in mind that the most essential and basic human right is the right to life,

Bearing in mind also that terrorism creates an environment that destroys the freedom from fear of the people,

Reiterating that all States have an obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and also that every individual should strive to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance,

Seriously concerned at the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups,

Profoundly deploring the increasing number of innocent persons, including women, children and the elderly, killed, massacred and maimed by terrorists in indiscriminate and random acts of violence and terror, which cannot be justified under any circumstances,

Noting with great concern the growing connection between the terrorist groups and other criminal organizations engaged in the illegal traffic in arms and drugs at the national and international levels, as well as the consequent commission of serious crimes such as murder, extortion, kidnapping, assault, taking of hostages and robbery,

Mindful of the need to protect human rights of and guarantees for the individual in accordance with the relevant human rights principles and instruments, particularly the right to life,

Reaffirming that all measures to counter terrorism must be in strict conformity with the relevant provisions of international law including international human rights standards,

1. Expresses its solidarity with the victims of terrorism;

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[5] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

2. Condemns the violations of the right to live free from fear and of the right to life, liberty and security;

3. Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation of the acts, methods and practices of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, as aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening the territorial integrity and security of States, destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, undermining pluralistic civil society and having adverse consequences for the economic and social development of States;

4. Calls upon States to take all necessary and effective measures in accordance with relevant provisions of international law, including international human rights standards, to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomever committed;

5. Urges the international community to enhance cooperation at regional and international levels in the fight against terrorism in accordance with relevant international instruments, including those relating to human rights, with the aim of its eradication;

6. Condemns incitement of ethnic hatred, violence and terrorism;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to collect information from all relevant sources on the implications of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, and of the fight against terrorism, for the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to continue to seek views of Member States on the possible establishment of a United Nations voluntary fund for the victims of terrorism, as well as ways and means to rehabilitate the victims of terrorism and to reintegrate them into society;

8. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report on human rights and terrorism based on the information collected;

9. Decides to consider this question at its fifty-fourth session under the item entitled "human rights questions".